

REMARKS

Applicants request favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1, 2, 6-14, 16-23, 26-34, 36-49 and 60-62 are pending in this application, with Claims 1, 13, 22, 33, 42, 44, 46, 48, and 60-62 being independent.

Claims 1, 13, 22, 33, 42, 44, 46, 48, and 60-62 have been amended. Applicants submit that support for the amendments can be found in the original disclosure, and therefore no new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 13-14, 22, 23, 26, 33, 34, 42-49 and 60-62 were rejected under 35 U.S. C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,892,900 (Ginter, et al.). Claims 7-10, 16-19, 27-30, and 36-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over Ginter et al. in combination with one or more of U.S. Patent No. 6,725,372 (Lewis et al.). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for the reasons presented below.

As recited in independent Claim 1, the present invention includes, *inter alia*, the feature where a roaming server receives digital content protected by a first intellectual property right protection system, wherein the digital content includes information uniquely specifying the intellectual property right protection system protecting the digital content. Claim 1 further recites the feature of changing the intellectual property right protection system of the received digital content to a second intellectual property right protection system based on the change request information, wherein the changing also changes the information uniquely specifying the intellectual property right system protecting the digital content. With these features, even if there are various kinds of intellectual property right

protection systems, a roaming server can easily specify uniquely the intellectual property right protection system protecting a given digital content and properly execute a change of the intellectual property right protection system.

Applicants submit that the cited art fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-mentioned features. In Ginter et al., a content creator creates and transmits rules and controls (CA) to a distributor, the distributor changes the received rules and controls (i.e., CA becomes DA(CA)), and transmits the changed rules and controls to a content user. However, that patent does not disclose or suggest at least the feature that the digital content includes information uniquely specifying the intellectual property right protection system protecting the digital content. That patent also does not disclose or suggest that when the intellectual property right protection system is changed, the information uniquely specifying the intellectual property right protection system protecting the digital content is also changed.

The other cited art also fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-mentioned features.

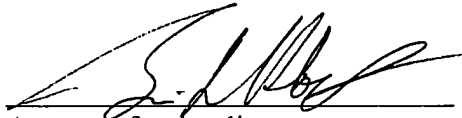
For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit the present invention recited in independent Claim 1 is patentable over the art of record.

The other independent claims recite similar features and are believed to be patentable for similar reasons. The dependent claims are believed patentable for at least the same reasons as the independent claims, as well as for the additional features they recite.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, entry of this Amendment, withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, and an early passage to issue are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. L. Klock", is written over a horizontal line.

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